



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FAMILIES, CHILDREN, AND SENIORS

Wednesday, September 21st, 2016 9:00 a.m. Room 327 House Office Building

Representative Hooker, Chair, called the meeting to order.

The Chair requested attendance be called to establish a quorum of the appointed committee members:

Present: Reps. Hooker, Runestad, Forlini, Crawford, Vaupel, Hovey-Wright, Talabi, and Liberati.
Absent: None.
Excused: None.

Representative Runestad moved to approve the minutes from the September 14th, 2016 meeting.

There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid the committee at ease, the time being 9:02 a.m.

The Chair brought the committee back to order, the time being 9:05 a.m.

The Chair laid HR 327 before the committee:

HR 327 (Runestad) A resolution to encourage awareness and sensitivity to the concept of parental alienation.

Representative Runestad testified in support of the resolution. Questions and discussion followed.

Larry Herren, LMSW, testified in support of the resolution. Questions and discussion followed.

Kathy Hagenian, representing the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, testified in opposition to the resolution.

Michelle Mclean, representing herself, testified in support of the resolution. Questions and discussion followed.

The following people submitted a card in opposition to the resolution but did not wish to speak:

Tim McDonald, representing himself.
Christopher Rennie, representing himself.
Tom Cottrell, representing YMCA West Central Michigan.
Scott Zochowski, representing himself.
Wanda Merriweather, representing First Step.
Brandi Ziegler, representing Safe Center.

Samantha Straub, representing First Step.

Noah Smith, representing Alan Wachendorfer of the National Association of Social Workers.

Keith DenHollander, representing the Christian Coalition of Michigan.

Representative Forlini moved to report HR 327 with recommendation. The motion did prevail with a vote of 5-3-0.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Reps. Hooker, Runestad, Forlini, Crawford, and Vaupel.

Nays: Reps. Hovey-Wright, Talabi, and Liberati.

Pass: None.

The Chair laid HB 4141 before the committee:

HB 4141 (Runestad) Family law; child custody; joint custody in every custody dispute between parents; mandate except in certain circumstances.

Representative Runestad spoke in support of the proposed substitute (H-1) for HB 4141.

Representative Runestad moved to adopt a substitute (H-1) for HB 4141. The motion did prevail by a vote of 5-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Reps. Hooker, Runestad, Forlini, Crawford, and Vaupel.

Nays: None.

Pass: Reps. Hovey-Wright, Talabi, and Liberati.

Elizabeth Bransdorfer, representing the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, testified in opposition to the bill.

James Semerad, representing Dads and Moms PAC, testified in support of the bill.

The Honorable Richard Halloran, representing the Michigan Judges Association, testified in opposition to the bill.

Linda Wright, representing herself, testified in support of the bill.

The following people submitted a card in opposition to the bill and did not wish to speak:

Jacquelyn Dupler, Family Law Attorney.

Scott Zochowski, representing himself.

Tim McDonald, representing himself.

Mary Pollock, representing the American Association of University Women of Michigan.

Cami Pendell, representing the Michigan Judges Association.

Christopher Rennie, representing himself.

Samantha Straub, representing First Step.

Noah Smith, representing Alan Wachendorfer, of the National Association of Social Workers.
Brandi Ziegler, representing Safe Center.
Wanda Merriweather, representing First Step.

The following people submitted a card in support of the bill but did not wish to speak:

Keith DenHollander, representing the Christian Coalition of Michigan.
Jeremey Hanson, representing The Father's Rights Movement.
Tom Hickson, representing the Michigan Catholic Conference.

The following people wished to speak in support of the bill but were unable to do so because of time constraints:

Todd Hoglund, founder of Daddy Daughter Time.
Tara Rodriguez, representing herself.
Michael Riepen, representing himself and his children.

The following people wished to speak in opposition to the bill but were unable to do so because of time constraints:

Honorable Lisa Sullivan, representing Michigan Probate Judges Association.
Tom Cottrell, representing the YMCA West Central Michigan.
Erin Roberts, representing End Violent Encounters.
Jessi McKenna-Snyder, representing Promote Judicial Awakening and Stop Abuse Campaign.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting the time being 10:35 a.m.

Representative Hooker, Chair

Date Approved and Signed

Chase Cawthorne
Committee Clerk
September 21st, 2016
95 minutes